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RELEASED IN FULL

PAGE 01 CARACA 12435 271250Z
ACTION ARA-01

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	AID-01	A-01	CA-02	CCO-00	CIAE-00
	CTME-00	C-01	DODE-00	DS-00	FBO-01	HA-09	H-01
	IMMC-01	INRE-00	INR-01	L-03	ADS-00	M-01	NSAE-00
	NSCE-00	OCS-06	OMB-01	OPR-01	PA-01	PM-02	PRS-01
	P-01	SCT-03	SNP-00	SP-00	SR-00	SSC-01	SS-00
	TRSE-00	T-01	USIE-00	USSS-00	ASDS-01	RPE-00	/059W
-----7F55CF 271251Z /38							

O 271247Z NOV 92 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5741
INFO ARA COLLECTIVE
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM IMMEDIATE

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E.O.12356: DECL: N/A
TAGS: MARR, PGOV, ASEC, PREL, VE
SUBJECT: SITREP NO. 3/ ATTEMPTED COUP IN CARACAS

REF: CARACAS 12433

1. BEGINNING AT 8:15 AM THERE WAS SCATTERED (OCCASIONALLY HEAVY) SMALL ARMS FIRE IN THE GENERAL VICINITY OF THE EMBASSY. AT OF 0840, GUNFIRE IS STILL CONTINUING. EMBASSY BUILDINGS APPARENTLY HAVE NOT THUS FAR SUSTAINED ANY IMPACTS. WE ARE NOW ADVISING EMBASSY PERONNEL, WHO

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PAGE 02 CARACA 12435 271250Z
ARE NOT ALREADY AT EMBASSY, NOT TO COME IN; THOSE WHO ARE HERE HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO STAY.

2. BEFORE THE RECENT BURST OF SMALL ARMS FIRE, THE STREETS IN THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY OF THE EMBASSY WERE CALM AND QUIET. ON THE MAIN STREET ALONGSIDE THE EMBASSY (FRANCISCO MIRANDA) VEHICLE TRAFFIC WAS/IS SHARPLY DOWN; NO MORE THAN 5 PCT OF WHAT A NORMAL WORKDAY WOULD HAVE. THE SUBWAY IS CLOSED. MOST LOCAL BUSES AND TAXIS ARE NOT FUNCTIONING.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: OSCAR J OLSON
DATE/CASE ID: 08 AUG 2006 200503206

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3. WE HAVE UNCONFIRMED RADIO REPORTS OF POPULAR CRIES OF "VIVA CHAVEZ" IN CENTRAL CARACAS. REBELS ARE NO LONGER BROADCASTING ON CHANNEL 8 TV; WE HAVE AN UNCONFIRMED REPORT THAT CHANNEL 8 MAY HAVE BEEN BOMBED BY LOYAL FORCES.

4. WE ARE RESPONDING TO ANY PUBLIC INQUIRES ABOUT THE SITUATION WITH THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

"A COUP ATTEMPT OCCURRED EARLIER THIS MORNING. PRESIDENT PEREZ HAS STATED THAT LOYAL FORCES ARE IN CONTRROL OF THE SITUATION. IN VIEW OF THE SITUATION, EMBASSY ADVISES ALL AMERICANS TO EXERCISE CAUTION IN THEIR NECESSARY MOVEMENT AND TO AVOID UNNECCEASSRY MOVEMENTS UNTIL THE SECURITY SITUATION IN THE STREETS BECOMES CLEARER. MAIQUETIA AIRPORT HAS BEEN CLOSED. (END TEXT)

5. WE HAVE (0840) AN UNCONFIRMED REPORT THAT MIRAFLORES PALACE HAS BEEN ATTACKED BY ROCKETS FROM AN AIRCRAFT.

FELDER

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PAGE 03

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